THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) The field work for All India Tiger Census was undertaken by the State Governments during the year 1993. The data so far collected are being analysed to arrive at population estimates. The reports from a large number of States have not yet been received.

Closure of industries causing water pollution

636. DR. SANJAYA SINH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have conducted any survey of Western Yamuna Canal to identity the source of pollution of water and to assess the water quality of Haiderpur Water Works if so, the details thereof alongwith the names of industries which are causing major pollution to the water;

(b) whether any of the industry has been ordered to be closed down and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what steps are proposed to be taken to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (c) The Central Pollution Control Board has carried out survey of the Western Yamuna Canal from Haiderpur Water Works to Tajewala Head Works. According to their report, seven industries, namely, Ballarpur Industries Ltd., Sarasvati Sugar Mills, India Sugar Mills, Panipat Sugar Mill, Distillary at Panipat, Haryana Distillery and Chandpur Board Mills are discharging their waste waters into this cannal.

Haryana Pollution Control Board has been asked to take necessary action against the defaulting industries and also to restrain them from discharging the waste waters into the Western Yamuna Canal.

Safeguard of Indian Community in Kenya

637. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has taken up with the Kenyan Government the issue of growing attacks on Members of Indian community in Nairobi and other States of East-African Nations;

(b) if so, whether there had been repeated attacks on business community of India residing in Nairobi;

(c) if so, what action the Kenyan Government has taken thereon; and

(d) to what extent Kenya has assured to take all measures to safeguard the Indian community;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) to (d) Attacks on some members of the Indian community in Kenya have come to notice. However, no such incidents in other East African States have been reported.

The Government of India had taken up the matter with the Government of Kenya which gave assurance of all possible help to safeguard the Indian community. No further attacks have since been reported.

Pakistan's nuclear capability

638. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assessment about Pakistan's capability to prepare nuclear bombs has lately been made by Government;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof in terms of material, and technology available with Pakistan and the number

and nature of nuclear weapons that can be prepared with it; and

(c) what is Government's response in view of the security perceptions arising from Pak nuclear capability?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) and (b) Government are aware of the clandstine and weapons oriented nature of Pakistan's nuclear programme.

(c) Government constantly monitor all developments having a bearing on India's security and take all necessary measures to safeguard.

Pending applications for passport on the country

639. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH MANN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the office-wise details of pending applications for passports in the country as on date;

(b) what are the reasons for delay in disposal of such applications; and

(c) what steps Government are taking to ensure minimum time in grant of passports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) Office-wise details of applications for fresh passports as on 1-10-1993 are given in the enclosed statement. (*See* below).

(b) There was a marked increase in the number of applications for fresh passports from 15.74 lakhs in 1990 to 24.03 lakhs in 1991 and 24.72 lakhs in 1992. This increase in demand combined with inadequate staff strength and a shortfall in booklet supply, resulted in delays in disposal of passport applications and the build-up of a backlog.

(c) Government have taken a number of measures to reduce the time taken to issue passports. These include, *inter alia*, augmentation of staff strength, increased supply of passport booklets, introduction of an incentive scheme, upgradation of office facilities and a review of systems and procedures in order to increase productivity and reduce delays.

Statement

Status of fresh applications from Jan. to 1st. Oct. 1993 (*Provisional*)

Office	Receipt	Issue	Applications under process as on 1-10-93	More than one month pendency
1	2	3	4	5
Ahmedabad	85853	103015	23055	11211
Bangalore	87459	65547	40586	23112
Bareilly	46476	50830	6872	2912
Bhopal	19833	19165	4034	1221
Bhubaneshwar	7037	7873	2237	610
Bombay	159503	154991	51676	19527
Calcutta	31459	40509	13403	5820
Chandigarh	57683	68338	72086	62662
Cochin	90721	140496	12385	11172